In the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ An in vitro method for inducing growth inhibition ~~of~~ or apoptosis in a population of cancer cells in which mdm2 is not overexpressed, comprising administering to the cells an agent comprising a peptide, less than 25 amino acids in length, and including the peptide motif FXaaXaaXaaW (SEQ ID NO: 4), where Xaa is any amino acid, wherein the agent has ~~having~~ the property of disrupting the binding of p53 and mdm2 or inhibiting the production of mdm2.

2. (Previously amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the p53 is activated for DNA specific binding and transcription.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the agent comprises a peptide having an amino acid sequence that consists of~~, or that is a variant of,~~ a portion of human p53 which has the property of binding to mdm2.

4.- 7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the agent has the property of competing with mdm2 for binding p53, but does not inhibit ~~a biological activity~~ the ability of p53 to induce cell cycle arrest or apoptosis in cells after DNA damage.

9-10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~medicament is for the treatment of cancer, or other condition associated with non-functional p53 or mdm2~~ said peptide has at least 70% amino acid sequence identity with a portion of human p53.

12.-27. (Canceled)